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Clarkburg, W. Va.—"I heard of Dr. Pierce's remedies and used them when living in Ridgway, W. Va., where we kept a store. I was in a delicate way and 'Favorite Prescription' made me comfortable and built me up. I was greatly benefited. Am glad to recommend them."—Mrs. JOHNSON ANDERSON, School St., Clarkburg, W. Va.
Health always brings wealth of beauty. A healthy state of the system comes with Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It's a medicine prepared for woman's ailments—it cures those derangements and weaknesses which make a woman's life miserable.
It is prepared from nature's roots and herbs and does not contain a particle of alcohol or any narcotic. It's not a secret prescription for its ingredients are printed on the wrapper.
Women are earnestly advised to take it for irregular or painful periods, backache, headache, displacement, catarrhal condition, hot flashes, sallow complexion and nervousness.
If you are a sufferer, if your daughter, mother, sister need help, get Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription in liquid or tablet form from any medicine dealer to-day.
Write Dr. Pierce's Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., for free book on woman's diseases.
The sluggish liver can be cured by the use of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. Biliouness, coated tongue, bad breath, are all cleared up and banished by the use of these tiny sugar coated granules—purely vegetable and harmless. They do not cause a habit.

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A XMAS SUGGESTION
Do not worry about that Christmas list. Give house slippers this Christmas and you will find that Yuletide is not so expensive after all.
A more welcome present could not be given to any person, than a pair of attractive House Slippers. We have a large assortment in all colors and styles for every member of the family.
These House Slippers are most reasonable prices 60c to \$2.00. Let us prove it.
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PENSIONS FOR PREACHERS
(From the Literary Digest.)
"Justice too long deferred," is the Chicago Herald's characterization of the plans for pensioning retired ministers which were endorsed by a church congress at San Francisco last summer. It was shown that the Protestant churches are already at work securing fifty million dollars for the proper care of retired or disabled ministers and their families, and it was estimated that over sixty millions are needed. Since the conference the campaign for ministerial pensions has engaged the strenuous activities of the various responsible church boards, and has been given both publicity and editorial support by the lay as well as the religious press. It is the live topic in the denominations today," declares the Detroit Free Press, which adds these words of hearty approval:
"The adoption of a pension system would do much to attract more young men to the ministry, for no matter how strong the spiritual call a man feels, he cannot be blamed for hesitating to enter a profession which is so poorly paid. In general, that he cannot hope to provide for his old age and that of those dependent upon him.
The soul of the inadequately paid preacher, no matter how strong his faith, must be strangely perplexed when he contrasts the stately cathedrals built in honor of the God he preaches with the deprivations he endures in order to spread the gospel message. Less magnificent churches and better rewards to the humble toilers in the fields would seem more befitting the spirit of Christianity."
Sometime, similarly observes the Sioux Falls Press, 'society will give these men their due'.
"We pension the faithful railroad man and the superannuated of scores of industries. Eventually we will care for the broken-down minister who served nobly for precious little in the way of earthly compensation."
It is continually asked, says the Rev. J. T. B. Smith, editor of the Veteran Preacher (Meth. Epis. Chicago). "What is the average salary of an American minister, and why cannot he save sufficient money to take care of himself and family in his old age?" The average salary of the Protestant preachers is barely \$1,000, according to Mr. Smith, and he states the average salaries in the various denominations as follows: "Unitarian, \$1,221; Protestant Episcopal, \$994; Universalist, \$974; Lutheran, \$744; Presbyterian, North, \$977; Presbyterian, South, \$857; Methodist Episcopal, \$741; Northern Baptist, \$681; United Brethren, \$547; Disciples, \$527; Southern Baptist, \$324." A Congregationalist authority places the average ministerial salary in his denomination under \$800. These salaries, declares Mr. Smith, "conclusively prove that if the preacher were to save he would rob himself and family of the necessities of life, and cripple his own efficient services as pastor and preacher."
The Methodist church, like several other denominations, has taken regular annual collections, and has set apart dividends from the publishing houses for: retired ministers. But, says Secretary J. B. Hingeley, of the Board of Conference Claimants, as quoted by Mr. Smith in the San Francisco meeting, "the special movement at the present time in all denominations is to increase permanent funds, the income from which shall be used for the benefit of retired ministers and widows." Methodists are trying, according to Dr. Hingeley, "First, to establish a retiring annuity or pension, based on the years of service given by the minister; and secondly, the providing of such an additional amount as may be necessary in cases where the conditions require more than the pension affords." And a movement has been started in the church aiming at the raising of a \$15,000,000 fund.
The Presbyterian church, according to Dr. Foulkes, of the Board of Ministerial Relief and Sustentation, has now in invested resources almost \$4,000,000, and is busy securing \$10,000,000. The Baptist church, Mr. Smith tells us, has recently received a \$200,000 unconditional and a \$50,000 conditional gift for the use of its Ministers' and Missionaries' Benefit Board. Dean Shaffer Matthews sees in the movement "something even greater than a noble attempt to care properly for the ministry," namely, "the rising tide of the Kingdom of God." The last general convention of the Protestant Episcopal church worked out a systematic plan for pensioning aged and disabled clergymen and for widows and orphans of the clergy. The church, said an Episcopalian speaker at San Francisco, is at last awake to the need of providing "an old-age pension, positive and automatic, not an uncertain charity dependent on annual appeals." The Disciples of Christ have doubled their receipts and their permanent fund for ministerial relief in the last two years. The Congregational church, we learn from Mr. Smith's paper, are working together to raise a \$2,000,000 fund, and are substituting the basis of "justice for faithful service" for that of "charity to indigence." Similar plans are reported from several other denominations. There is no pension fund among the Jews, says Mr. Smith, "but the salaries seem ample for the rabbis to lay aside sufficient money for their old age." The churches, concludes this review, "are busy raising fifty millions, but they will need sixty-five million dollars to take care properly of the retired minister and the widows and orphans of deceased ministers." And the following table is given to show how several denominations are facing the situation:
Methodist Episcopal—will need \$10,000,000
Baptist—must have 15,000,000
Disciples—will take 10,000,000
Episcopalians—fund and parish payments 5,000,000
Lutherans—will need at least 10,000,000
Methodist Episcopal, South 5,000,000
Congregational 5,000,000
Other churches will need about \$5,000,000 5,000,000
Total \$67,000,000
President Wilson, in a letter to the Rev. J. T. B. Smith, of the board, expresses his "very deep interest in the effort," having "seen so many cases which demonstrated the necessity of such action." Billy Sunday declares that it is "radically wrong when a prize fighter in fifteen minutes can earn more than a country parson does in fifteen years."

FRANCHISE
(Continued from page 1.)
The new franchise back at the next regular meeting of council, but other members, led by Councilman C. H. Harding and prompted by the city attorney, declared it would not be advisable to draft the ordinance in a short time because of the vast amount of technicalities involved and the various public rights that should be conserved. An amendment offered by Mr. Sutton, instructing the committee to report the franchise at the next meeting, was voted down by a vote of three to five.
In addressing the council in behalf of the Home Gas Company, Mr. Williams declared that Clarkburg people certainly could and should step into the breach caused by an alleged gas famine and supply gas for domestic and factory consumption, because the city is in the heart of the great gas producing region east of the Mississippi river, can obtain all the gas it needs and ought to do so independently of outside interests. He pointed out that all factories are designed and constructed for use of natural gas and that at least seventy-five per cent of the dwellings of the community are so constructed.
The application of the Home Gas Company, Mr. Williams said, is a business proposition. The company does not pose as a philanthropist and desires a franchise under which it can make a reasonable living or none at all. It is willing, however, to abide by all reasonable restrictions and safeguards the council chooses to embrace in an ordinance.
Report of a special committee appointed by the council some time ago to investigate the franchise application was made by Councilman Conway, who said the committee believed the matter was too great an undertaking for the committee, which desired to report it back for action by the council. This report was accepted and the committee was discharged.
Councilman Harding then raised some objections regarding several paragraphs in the draft submitted by the Home Gas Company. It was for the purpose of correcting these paragraphs so as to conform to the desires of the special committee and the council that this matter was referred to the ordinance committee, upon motion of Mr. Ernst, for a new draft.
The objections of the special committee were set forth in questions propounded by Mr. Harding and answered by Mr. Williams, as follows:
It is a common report that the Home Gas Company is a comparatively small concern, weak and not in a position to furnish an adequate gas supply. What about the capital of the company, is personnel and its means and ability to furnish gas to the people and factories of Clarkburg?
The Home Gas Company is composed entirely of local people. It now has a capitalization of \$75,000, owns seven or eight producing wells and serves four factories and about 600 domestic consumers. It has in prospect all the capital needed and all the territory required to furnish an adequate gas supply. The granting of a franchise to it, of course, would aid materially in obtaining additional capital. Of the capital stock \$45,000 is paid in. The company now has available something like 1,000 acres of gas-producing territory. If a franchise is granted it has been assured that it can obtain from 3,000 to 5,000 acres of gas-producing territory, all that would be sufficient to supply Clarkburg. If necessary, the capital stock will be increased to \$200,000, \$300,000 or \$500,000 in order to take care of the business. The officers are Thomas C. White, president; Charles Long, secretary and treasurer; and Thomas C. White, W. G. Kester, W. Guy Tetterick, Jasper S. Kyle and Theodore Reichart, directors.
What is the average daily production of the wells now owned by the company?
They have not been lately gauged. When drilled in they averaged something like 1,000,000 cubic feet daily.

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KING OF FIRE
Is applied directly to a fresh cut, or burn, and relief and recovery quickly follow when it is used. For sprains and bruises nothing equals it.
Sold by druggists and medicine dealers, 25c a bottle.

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Specials For Thursday Night
Fancy Turkish Towels sets: One large towel, one guest-size, one wash rag to match; pink, blue and yellow borders, Jacquard patterns. \$1.00 value, special at.....
59c
VERY ACCEPTABLE XMAS GIFTS.
We still have a fair assortment of boudoir caps, knit slippers, waists, silk skirts, gloves, Peresian Ivory goods, etc., etc.
Baby Crib Blankets, value \$1.00. Size 36x50 inches, beautiful patterns. Special for Christmas trade.....
69c
Ladies' Silk Stockings. The famous Kayser silk, put up in fancy Christmas boxes, regular and extra sizes, \$1.00 per pair.
GRAND LEADER

All are now in use and furnish an abundant supply for all present needs.
What is the rate now charged and proposed to be charged?
The company does not think it reasonable or fair to set any fixed rate for gas. No business man would want to bind himself to a stipulated price owing to possible changing conditions in the community. Both council and the state public service commission, have jurisdiction over that matter and could prevent charging of any unreasonable rates. The company now furnishes gas at the same rate of the Clarkburg Light and Heat Company, ten cents a thousand cubic feet, with an additional charge of two cents if bills are not promptly paid. It should be noted, too, that the Home Gas Company has not filed with the state public service commission any application to increase its present rates.
Is it the intention of the Home Gas Company to enter business upon a competitive basis?
It is.
Is it the intention of the company to enter the city immediately with its pipe lines, or to do so perfunctorily and let the franchise lie idle for speculative purposes?
The company certainly intends to take advantage of its franchise immediately, or as soon as weather would permit construction work, and to serve the public at once as speedily as possible.
Mr. Williams pointed out that the legislature and the courts have placed a ban on the holding of public franchises for speculative purposes.
In answer to further questions Mr. Williams pointed out various provisions of the tentative ordinance regarding the tearing up of streets, supervision of council regarding pipe lines and in particular the provision enabling the city to purchase the franchise, business, plant and properties of the company after five years at a price to be determined by a board of arbitrators less the value of the franchise, provided the company is given six months' notice.
Just before adjournment, council passed an order employing Miss Elizabeth Goodwin deputy collector and treasurer at a salary of \$70 a month in accordance with an ordinance recently passed creating that office.
BARBER SHOPS TO CLOSE.
The local barbers' union announces that all union shops in the city will be closed all day Saturday—Christmas day—but that they will remain open until 11 o'clock Friday night.
RICHARDS CHILD BURIED.
Allen Richards, aged four months, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Richards, of Mt. Clare, died at 10 o'clock Tuesday night after a short illness of stomach trouble. The funeral services was held at the home at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon and the burial was in the Odd Fellows' cemetery at Mt. Clare.
Daniel Webster Flour 90c sack, \$6.75 barrel. Chas. H. Griffin, Both phones No. 200.

Overwhelmed!
For up-to-the-minute wearing apparel for men. Hundreds of thrifty women and men are crowding our store every day buying seasonable wearables for gifts. At no other store can you buy as much for so little as here. Everybody who buys here goes away more than satisfied.
NO NOBBIER SUITS
To be found anywhere for the price asked than you will find here. They come in all the newest weaves of serges, worsteds, broadcloths and novelties of the season.
Price \$3.98 to \$45.00
OVERCOATS
Are our hobby. We have some very swell garments. Nothing cheap about them but the price. The materials are good and the garments are well made.
An overcoat for a gift at this time of year would surely be much appreciated. No one has bought one of our overcoats and regretted it. Yours is here, come in and get it. Priced from \$3.98 to \$26.00
IN CONCLUSION
Let us say that we have only touched upon these few articles of our immense stock. We can not mention but a few here. Take hats for instance: We have a world-beater at \$2.00. Then Hosiery, Caps, Shoes, Gloves and Working Clothes of all kinds, sold during this sale at a saving from 25 per cent to 60 per cent below regular prices.
Everybody is welcome to our store. Everybody is greeted with a big, broad, Christmas smile.
Come in, come in today!
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On the New Concrete Bridge
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